OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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TO : Mr. Moore

DATE: 4/18/77

FROM : J. S. Peelman

1 - Mr. Moore
1 - Mr. Ingram
1 - Mr. Peelman
1 - Mr. Lawn

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, 11/22/63 DALLAS, TEXAS

3658 Dallas

PURPOSE: To advise of the inaccuracy of a statement made by Richard Sprague, former Chief Counsel, House Assassination Committee, that the FBI hid or disguised embarrassing evidence regarding Lee Harvey Oswald. u

RECOMMENDATION: For information. u

DETAILS: On 4/11/77, Richard Sprague, former Chief Counsel, House Assassination Committee, held a press conference, at which time Sprague made known his observations regarding the Committee as well as his personal opinion as to the direction that the assassination probe should take. With reference to the FBI, Sprague indicated that according to a J. Edgar Hoover memorandum, FBI Agents who knew Lee Harvey Oswald listened to a CIA tape recording of a conversation between Oswald and the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City. Sprague advised that although the CIA claimed the tapes had been erased after being transcribed, the FBI was able to review these tapes and conclude that the voice was not that of Oswald. u

REC-126

JSG/gjw (6)

CONTINUED - OVER

1 - 105-82555 (Lee Harvey Oswald)

Current Class. Marking per CIA letter 9/23/88. SP6 [redacted] 1/14/89. #6454

b7c

Classified by 3002
Exempt from GDS, Category 2-3
Date of Declassification Indefinite

22 APR 20 1977

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FBI/DOJ

Peelman to Mr. Moore Memorandum
Re: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

The basis for Sprague's statement is a J. Edgar Hoover letter to the President dated 11/23/63, the day after the assassination, which enclosed a five page LHM setting forth the background regarding the assassination and Lee Harvey Oswald (62-109060-433). The LHM specifically set forth the fact that FBI Agents [redacted] [S] This point of information was subsequently determined to be incorrect and the matter was researched and reported during the Senstudy Project in 1976. [redacted] b1 (S) Our Legat in Mexico City subsequently advised that [redacted] (S) (105-82555-330, 371, 967 and 62-116395-1460). (Secret)

In conclusion, Richard Sprague's statement is based upon information obtained by his staff's review of excised copies of the Lee Harvey Oswald file. However, his conclusion, based upon incomplete information is incorrect. Inasmuch as his staff personnel do not have clearances for classified material, his people could not be permitted access to the classified material which would have resolved the matter. The Committee staff has recently made an effort to obtain security clearances which will enable them to have access to such material. u

This communication is being classified Secret as information contained herein has been so classified by the CIA. u